

## NEBRASKA SUPREME COURT

Justices	 Lindsey Miller-Lerman	 John Freudenberg	 Jeffrey Funke	 William Cassel	 Stephanie Stacy	 Michael Heavican	 Jonathan Papik
Confidence Score	Mild Democrat	Strong Republican	Mild Republican	Mild Republican	Mild Republican	Strong Republican	Mild Republican
Opinion Partners							
Dissenting Minority							
Determining Majority							
Lone Dissenter							

- ▶ Number of justices: **7**
- ▶ Number of cases: **198**
- ▶ Percentage of cases with a unanimous ruling: **98.5% (195)**
- ▶ Justice most often writing the majority opinion: **Justice Jeffrey Funke (29)**
- ▶ Per curiam decisions: **22**
- ▶ Concurring opinions: **10**
- ▶ Justice with most concurring opinions: **Justice Lindsey Miller-Lerman (4)**
- ▶ Dissenting opinions: **3**
- ▶ Justice with most dissenting opinions: **Justice Jonathan Papik (2)**

### COURT CONTENTION

#### Opinion partners

In 2020, one case before the Nebraska Supreme Court was decided 5-2. In that case, Justices Papik and Miller-Lehrman allied in dissent. In our *Ballotpedia Courts: State Partisanship* study, Justice Miller recorded a Mild Democratic Confidence Score, and Justice Papik recorded a Mild Republican Confidence Score.

#### Dissenting minority

In 2020, zero cases before the Nebraska Supreme Court were decided by split decision, so it is not possible to discern a dissenting minority with the existing data.

### Determining majority

In 2020, zero cases before the Nebraska Supreme Court were decided by split decision, so it is not possible to discern a determining majority with the existing data.

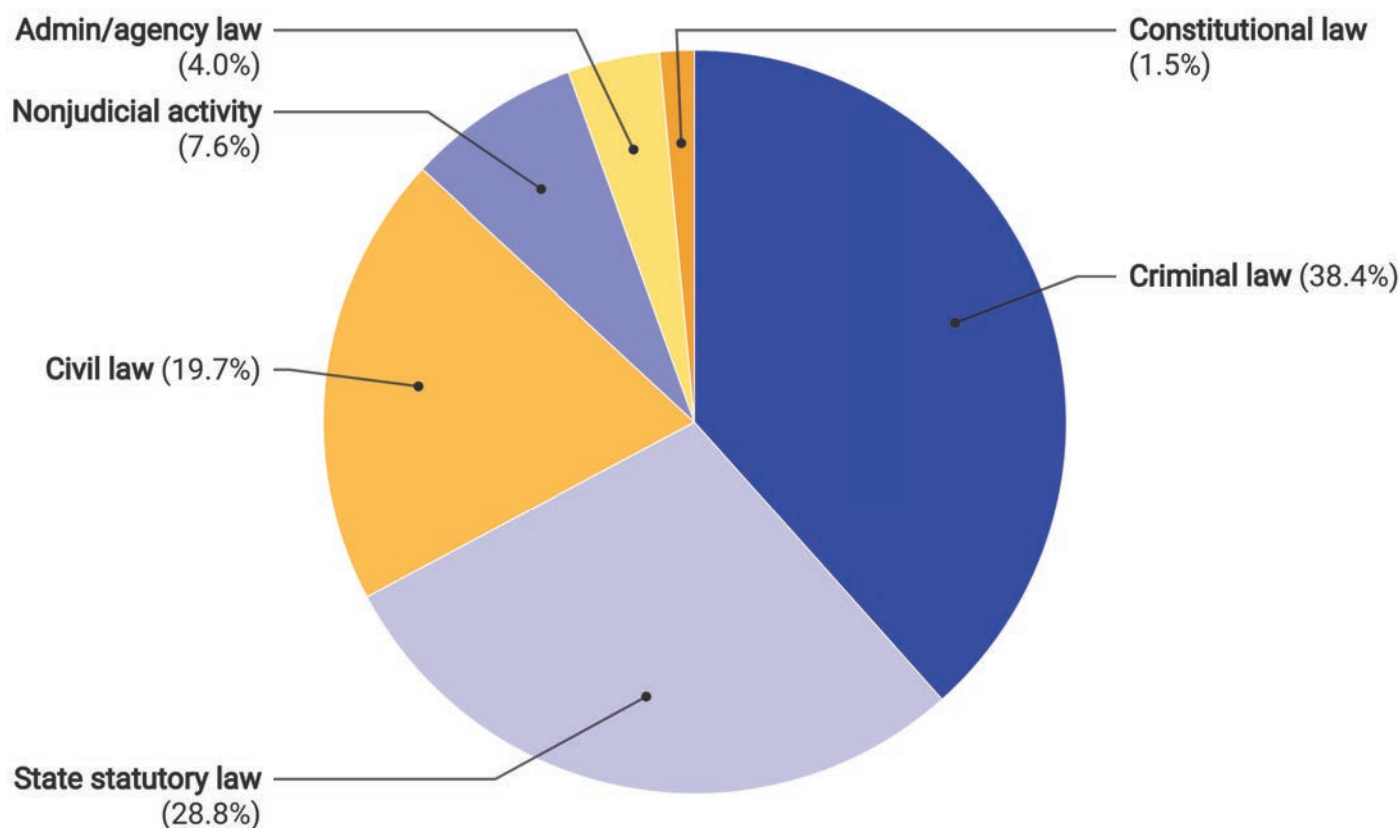
### Lone dissenter

In 2020, there was a lone dissenter in two cases before the Nebraska Supreme Court. Justice Cassel was a lone dissenter in one of those cases and Justice Papik was a lone dissenter in another one of those cases. In our *Ballotpedia Courts: State Partisanship* study, Justices Cassel and Papik recorded Mild Republican Confidence Scores.

### COURT JURISDICTION

The supreme court has discretionary jurisdiction over cases appealed from the Nebraska Court of Appeals. It has mandatory jurisdiction over cases involving sentences of death or life imprisonment and cases questioning the constitutionality of state statutes. The court also has a supervisory role over attorney admission and discipline. The supreme court has general administrative authority over all lower courts.

### Case types decided by Nebraska Supreme Court, 2020



The most common case category heard by the Nebraska Supreme Court in 2020 was criminal law. Of the 198 cases it heard, 76 were criminal cases, or 38.4 percent of its total caseload for the year. A criminal case involves a final criminal appeal before the court of last resort.

The second most common cases that reached the supreme court were state statutory cases. A state statutory case involves the violation or enforcement of a state statute. The Nebraska Supreme Court heard 57 state statutory cases in 2020, or 28.8 percent of its total caseload for the year.

The third most common cases that reached the court were civil law cases. A civil case is one that involves a dispute between two parties, one of whom seeks reparations or damages. The Nebraska Supreme Court heard 39 civil cases in 2020, or 19.7% percent of its total caseload for the year.